

DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

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S. F. MURRAY, Proprietor.

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THE BANNER.

MONDAY, - - - - - JAN. 22d.

HALF SHEET.

Among other inconveniences occasioned by the bad roads, we are enabled this week to supply our subscribers with a half sheet only. We have ordered paper from St. Louis, and also from Quincy via Hannibal, which is on the way and would have reached us by the stages several days ago, if their trips could have been made. However, as we have had no mails for a week we are out of news also, and have but little use for paper. We expect before next publishing day to have a full supply of both.

IRELAND.

We had the satisfaction on Thursday evening, last, of listening to a lecture in the Methodist Church, by Mr. E. W. FITZSIMONS, a distinguished Irish Patriot, on the Religious, Political and Social condition of the Irish people, and the causes that defeated their late efforts, to free themselves of the British Government. The discourse was delivered in an eloquent and impressive manner, showing great research, extended and accurate information upon the part of the Speaker, and was received, anon, with bursts of applause by the audience.

Ireland Again.

Mr. E. W. FITZSIMONS has, upon the solicitation of some of our citizens, consented to lecture in Louisiana again on Tomorrow, (Tuesday) Evening, for the purpose of speaking more at length upon two or three heads that could not be done in one address.

Having been solicited, he has also consented to lecture in Bowling Green, on Thursday the 25th inst. at 6 o'clock, P. M.

We would direct the attention of the citizens of the town, to the call by the Board of Trustees in another column, for a public meeting to-night. The object is one that directly interests every citizen, and they should at least give it their attention for one night.

ICE-ROADS AND NEWS.

The roads for two weeks throughout Northern Missouri and Illinois, have been covered with a solid and slippery sheet of ice several inches deep,—such as the oldest citizens have never before seen. It has been formed by the falling of rain upon the deep snow until it assumed a liquid state, when a sudden cold change in the weather congealed the whole into a solid mass. The weather since has been so dry and cold, and the ice in the river has grown to such a thickness that it is believed a big cat-fish can cross the sand-bars with difficulty. Traveling has become very dangerous and much retarded where it is not entirely suspended. We have heard of many falls by horsemen, but no serious accident.

The mails have nearly all failed us of late. Our latest dates are as follows:

From St. Louis, - - - January 11th
Jefferson - - - - - " 9th
Hannibal - - - - - " 9th

Except from Illinois we have been for a week cut off from all communication. This state of affairs is borne the more impatiently now, that curiosity stands on tip-toe to catch a whisper from Congress—to peep for a moment into the Capitol at Jefferson—to hear exactly how near the Cholera has approached us—and, above all, to know precisely how much gold yet remains in California.

Without a knowledge of the doings in the world around us at present, we are thrown entirely upon our internal resources to extract food for the mind from the bitter past and flowery future. May none of the readers of the Banner ever find a poison in those flowers.

Since the above was in type, we have received an irregular mail with a "whole gist" of news; a few items only we have time and room to get into this half sheet.—We will have to grind the rest for our next.

The telegraphic despatches in this paper contain interesting items of European news—a glimpse at the doings in Congress—an account of a fuss in the Ohio Legislature—the election of James Cooper to the U. S. Senate by the Pennsylvania Legislature—the fatality of the Cholera among the U. S. troops in Texas—and the passage of the Wilmot Proviso by the lower House of the Illinois Legislature.

DEMOCRATIC BANNER.

"UNITED WE STAND—DIVIDED WE FALL."

VOL. 4.]

LOUISIANA, PIKE COUNTY, MISSOURI, MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 1849

[NO. 40]

STAGE-COACH ACCIDENT.

The mail-stage plying between Bowling Green and Palmyra, in attempting to cross Peno Creek on Saturday, the 13th inst., which was much swollen from the late rains, and icy at the banks, was capsized, by which the horses became entangled in their harness and before they could be rescued, one of them was drowned. The coach and harness were soon frozen fast and remained in the river till the following day. The letter mail, being light, was preserved dry; but the papers were saved in a damaged condition. We are not informed that there were any passengers in the stage.

"The Good Old Year," by "VALERIA," has been received. It will appear in our next.

We have frequently heard it said that an impression has gained credit in the country, that the disease, known as Spotted-Fever or Cold Plague, that has lately prevailed to some extent in Louisiana and vicinity, is contagious, and consequently many are afraid to visit the town on business. It is the opinion of all the Physicians of the place, we believe, that such fears are groundless. The Cold Plague is the offspring of severe winter weather and exposure.

The New Orleans Delta, of the 31st ult., states that the whole number of deaths from Cholera which had occurred in that city up to the date named, was 739. The telegraphic despatches to the St. Louis papers state that the epidemic in New Orleans, on the 5th inst., was greatly on the decline.

On Thursday, the 11th inst., the "Constitutional Amendments" passed the House of Representatives, by the decided vote of 78 to 16,—two-thirds being required. They have had two readings in the Senate, and it is believed they will finally pass that body with but little opposition. Let it not again be said the Democracy of Missouri is opposed to equal representation.

The Hon. John McHenry, member of the House of Representatives, from Bates county, died at Jefferson City on Monday, the 8th inst.

ILLINOIS SENATOR.—Gen. James Shields was elected on the 13th inst., U. S. Senator for the State of Illinois, for six years, from the 4th of March next.

FLORIDA SENATOR.—Gen. Jackson Morton, (dem.) was elected Senator in Congress for the State of Florida, on the 1st inst.

BANK OFFICERS.—Hon. James M. Hughes was elected on the 15th inst., by the Legislature, President of the Mother Bank at St. Louis. The following gentlemen were elected Directors: 1st, Edward Walsh; 2d, Wade M. Heiskell; 3d, Wm. T. Christy; 4th, L. Pickering; 5th, J. B. Brant; 6th, James E. Yeatman. The Legislature elects 8, and the stockholders, 2 directors. Two more were to be elected at the time of adjournment.

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES

From the St. Louis Union.

ARRIVAL OF THE WASHINGTON.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.

The steamer Washington arrived at this port to-day, from Southampton, and brings four days later intelligence from Europe.

France is quiet. The election excitement is declining, and confidence is being rapidly restored. The funds have advanced since the election.

Louis Napoleon polled 4,608,000 votes, and has a majority of at least one million votes over his competitors. It is thought that either Lamartine, Garnier, Pages or Arrago, will be made Vice President, and that M. Boxio will be made Minister of Commerce.

On the 21st of December, the first President of the French Republic, will be proclaimed from the Hotel de Ville, where, at the same time, the new Ministry will also be proclaimed.

At Louis Napoleon's inauguration, general amnesty will be proclaimed to all except vicincent and prisoners.

There is increased confidence amongst the commercial and monied classes, and French funds are still rising.

Some disagreement has taken place among Napoleon's friends, the particulars of which are unimportant.

The Pope of Rome intends residing in France.

No news of importance from Ireland. The State trials are being proceeded with. Justice Penne, issued an order refusing to allow the Irish papers to publish the proceedings of the trials.

Egypt is quiet. The new Vice Regent had assumed the reins of government in Rome, and a Provisional Government is to be formed. It was thought the great powers of Europe would interfere, and establish the Pige again in authority.

The Hungarians have determined on resisting the Austrian aggressions.

The Prussian fleets are lying off Trieste, for the purpose of suppressing the liberties of the Venetians, by blockading their city. No decisive battle had yet been fought, though much skirmishing had taken place among the imperial troops. The Hungarians, meanwhile, are destroying all means of communication, and endeavoring to cut off the invading Austrians, by burning their own towns and villages.

ENGLAND.

Parliament is to be prorogued on the first of February.

Corn has declined 2s. per quarter, and fallen 1s. at the London Corn Exchange. Flour very dull, and sales show Indian corn is heavy. The cotton market is very firm at recent advices. A large bona fide and speculative business, has given much confidence amongst operatives. Consols 88 1/2. At Harve sales of cotton were made at an advance on previous rates. Business was improving daily since the election of Louis Napoleon and staple articles had advanced.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.

SENATE.—Mr. Underwood presented a petition from sundry citizens of Kentucky, praying Congress to legislate in favor of removing the blacks of that State to Liberia.

Mr. Hale moved to lay the petition on the table, which was negatived—ayes 10, noes 30.—The petition was referred.

Mr. Atherton, from the Committee on Finance, reported back to the Senate the House bill to supply the deficiency in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June, 1849.

Mr. Berrien, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back to the Senate the bill introduced by Mr. Douglass, providing for the admission of California into the Union as a State, accompanying said bill Mr. B. submitted a report adverse to the provisions of the bill.

Mr. Mason moved that the report be printed for the use of the Senate. Upon this motion a protracted debate ensued, which was ended by a motion to postpone prevailing.

The Senate then went into Executive session and after sometime spent therein, adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Butler moved a reconsideration of the vote by which "a bill establishing a board of commissioners to settle claims against the Government," was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

The motion was debated, the vote reconsidered, and the bill placed upon the calendar in its order.

The remainder of the day the House was engaged upon unimportant business.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.

SENATE.—Petitions for abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia, were presented and laid on the table.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill respecting reciprocal trade between the United States and Canada.

Mr. Westcott and others spoke in favor of the bill, and urged its passage.

Messrs. Phelps, Downs and Metcalf, opposed the measure vehemently, and characterized it as unnecessary and improper. After which, the bill was laid over for the present.

On motion of Mr. Allen, the Senate went into Executive session, and after some time spent therein, the doors were opened, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House refused to suspend the rules, so as to allow a resolution to be introduced instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to report a bill for the effectual apprehension of slaves escaping from one State into another.

A petition was presented, praying the establishment of a board for the settlement of claims against the government. Referred to Committee on the Judiciary.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and took up the bill carrying into effect the 12th article of the treaty of peace with Mexico. Up to the hour of adjournment, no definite action was had.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 9.

There was great confusion and much excitement, in the joint session of the two houses of the Legislature to-day, caused by the six democrats on the committee appointed to count the vote for Governor, reporting and recommending the rejection of the vote of Leorian county, on the ground that the seal of the county was not attached to the returns; also declaring Weller to have received a majority of 280 in the vote of the State. The Speaker promptly decided the report out of order. Great confusion ensued. Mr. Whitman obtained the floor, and declared his determination to be heard at all hazards. Threats of force were given on both sides. Finally, however, order was restored, and the report of the committee read. The Speaker then rose and declared Ford to be elected. Attempts were made to interrupt the Speaker; furious questions were propounded, and oaths lavishly used. The convention, after this proceeding, broke up in great confusion.

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HARRISBURG, Jan. 9, 8 p. m.
James Cooper has been elected U. S. Senator for six years, from the 4th of March next, in place of Mr. Cameron, whose term expires.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 10.
We learn from New Orleans, that the cholera has appeared among the 8th U. S. Infantry, stationed at Fort Lavaca, Texas, and has been raging for two weeks past. There were 40 deaths daily. The dead were piled in heaps about the place. Half of the regiment are reported to have died from the epidemic.

SPRINGFIELD, ILLS., Jan. 9.
The Senate's Wilmot Proviso resolution passed the House to-day, by a vote of 38 to 34.

EXTRACTS FROM GOV. EDWARDS' MESSAGE.

BANK DEBT.

The State is indebted to the Bank, and the Bank demanded payment before the adjournment of the last legislature, but too late in the session to render it advisable to recommend any action upon the subject.—This case forms an exception to the assertion made in a preceding article, that our State generally makes timely arrangements to meet the demands against her; and whether it is proper even now to comply with that demand or not is a matter left for your consideration. The State has made the Bank and mainly owns it, and appoints nearly all the directors. Whether, then, the Bank shall dictate to the State, or the State to the Bank, is deemed a very proper matter for your consideration, and one for your decision.

In the wisdom, prudence and patriotism of the Bank, if we judge the future by the past, but little confidence can be reposed. This remark is made mainly in allusion to the mother Bank, most of the branches having been better and more profitably managed, and some of them with an eye more certainly directed to the interest of the State.

SYSTEM OF LEASING THE PENITENTIARY.

The present system of leasing the penitentiary ought to be changed or abandoned. The interests of the State and the reformation of the convicts both require an alteration. To save the executive in the exercise of the pardoning power,—one of his most important and delicate duties—a power not unlike that exercised by our creator towards ourselves—even the worst of us—a change should be made. This change is due to the lessees. The present system of leasing gives the lessees the right to all the labor of the convicts. This interests them naturally in keeping the best men and most valuable hands, and in aiding the liberation of the worst and least valuable. Every exercise of the pardoning power deprives them of the labor of some hands, and usually the best ones go first. This brings the executive and the lessees in collision, and every effort is made to embarrass him in the discharge of this important duty.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

As the State has now commenced paying off her debts, and as the people were never in a more flourishing condition, by pursuing this policy steadily and judiciously, we may soon discharge all our obligations. In the meantime, the condition of our finances, the increasing wealth, population, agricultural products and manufactures of the country, will justify a preparation for the prosecution of a system of internal improvements.

We have several rivers that must become subjects of improvement as the population of the country and the means at command increase. The St. Francis, with improvement, may become a good stream, for the section of country through which it flows. As much of it runs through a flat country, its waters are of course discharged slowly, and where this is the case, a much smaller volume of water makes a stream navigable. Black river is a stream of which but little has ever been said in the legislature, yet it well deserves attention among those enumerated as objects of improvement. In its character, it is more like the St. Francis than other rivers of the south; and all such rivers are more easily rendered navigable than those having a greater amount of fall. Current river in the south is a bold stream and affords a large amount of water, and with locks and dams may be made navigable for steam boats high up in the State.—This river would furnish a large amount of water power for manufacturing purposes. North Grand River, although probably discharging a less amount of water, has yet the appearance of being larger than Cur-

rant river. This stream might also be made navigable with locks and dams; and flowing through a country rich in soil and population, the water power would be of immense value for manufacturing purposes.

The Osage is a stream of still larger size, and waters a greater extent of country, and passing through a fertile region, embraces in its interest a much larger population. As to the proper plan of improving this river there are various opinions; so many and so different that a mere guess as to the best plan would be useless. Before any large amount of money is expended on it proper tests should be made as to the feasibility and usefulness and cost of different plans. A very large, industrious and wealthy population is now interested in the improvement of that river, and the subject merits serious attention; but no hasty and badly prepared plan should be adopted. An unsuccessful plan would injure the river and the reputation of the country. The work should be entered upon with great care and caution.

Of the improvement of the Missouri enough was said in my message to the last legislature, and what was then said, after two years more of reflection and observation, it is still believed, deserves your attention and action. The most important results are often produced by the proper and timely application of means apparently weak and inefficient, and too cheap and simple to effect their object. But practical and experienced river men have approved of the plan suggested for the improvement of the Missouri. No permanent work, except the removal of snags and preventing others from falling into the channel can be made on this river. The shoals themselves are temporary and the improvements on them must be equally so. But they are easily improved. The passing of a boat often does the work. A good dredge might be of great use in deepening the shoals. This operation on the Missouri would be unlike a similar one on almost any other stream. The shoals are wide and deepening a channel of fifty or sixty feet would hardly effect the pools above. In fact the Missouri may be said to have no pools.—The water falls every where and forms a swift current.

White river is represented as a valuable stream. In its character it resembles Current river, but furnishes a larger amount of water, and in its unimproved state can be navigated at times. The improvement of this river will be an object of great interest to a portion of the people of the south-west. S. Grand river, or Neosho lies beyond the State—a beautiful stream, flowing but a little west of our western boundary, and collecting in its course nearly or quite all the waters of the south west corner of the State. The improvement of this river is a subject of deep interest to some of our south western counties. But this is a work for the General Government, the river lying beyond our jurisdiction, if the survey of our western boundary be correct. The improvement of this river should be presented to the attention of Congress by a memorial from the legislature. The time must come when the improvement will be made, and there is no danger of putting off that time by presenting the subject at an early day.

But of all the improvements enumerated none claims more urgently your attention and immediate action than the drainage of the southern swamps. This subject is not unimportant to the United States; it is important to the State; and of the deepest importance to that particular region. The health of the country, its wealth and prosperity, the increase of population, the travel both by water and land depend upon it. The plan of asking Congress for alternate sections of the land to defray the expenses of reclaiming it, is probably the best which has been proposed. If this plan, and the character of the lands to be reclaimed, their worse than worthless condition, the impracticability of ever selling them in their submerged condition, the inconveniences under which the inhabitants labor in passing from one section to another and especial in getting their produce to market, and above all the effect which so large an amount of swamp lands has upon the health of that region and the surrounding country to a great extent—if all these things could be properly presented to the attention of Congress, that body could not discharge its duty faithfully and refuse to provide means to improve the southern swamps.

CORPORATIONS.

The true principle, and the one on which every act of incorporation should be based is equality among persons—the same privileges to all—the same restrictions upon all. This looks so fair on its face, as a general principle, that no party will be apt to complain of it at first view; and when closely scrutinized it will be found to answer the ends of justice fully, and that good policy and expediency demand nothing more.

A legal mind comprehends this principle at once, but the people at large to understand it properly, must know what is meant by the term "persons," and what may be comprehended under it. Persons, then, are of two kinds, one natural and the other artificial. If we suppose A to be a stockholder of five thousand, and B a stockholder of ten thousand, in a corporation styled C, then we have a case to explain our term "persons" as well as our general principle. A, the stockholder of five thousand, is a natural person, and B, the stockholder of